THIRD EDITION, GREATLY IMPROVED

A REPLY

TO THE PAMPHLET ENTITLED

"FACTS CONCISELY STATED

FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE LEGISLATURE OF OHIO.

PUBLISHED BY THE FACULTY OF THE MEDICAL COLLEGE OF OHIO."

To the Hon. the General Assembly of the State of Ohio:

I was, yesterday shown a publication purporting to be by the Faculty of the Medical College entitled "Facts concisely stated for the information of the Legislature of Ohio," which presents my character and conduct in an aspect that calls for a brief notice.

When a collective body of men denounce an individual, it is unnecessary for them to accompany their denunciation with evidence, for their *numbers* alone, are a kind of substitute for facts; and *his* simple denial, cannot meet *their* affirmation. I feel myself called upon, therefore, to accompany my remarks on some of the charges contained in that pamphlet, with testimony in the negative.

The publication contains two classes of accusations:

First, such as were made before the Commissioners of inquiry in the Spring of 1833, in reference to which the Legislature have the testimony in their possession, and to it I refer—on it I am willing and anxious to rest the issue—and shall, therefore, only declare that they are untrue. I would say *false*; but my great respect for men in office—precludes me from the use of such language.

Secondly, I am accused of having made preparations for several weeks before the meeting of the late Medical Convention, for an attack on the Medical College, in the hope that the college would not be represented in that body, but was finally afraid to venture on the experiment. It is to this charge, that I wish to oppose the testimony of several of my medical brethren. My own statement is, that I never meditated such an attack, but sought to avert its being made by others; that for several weeks, I labored to induce my brethren, generally, in this city to attend the Convention; that among them were a large proportion of the few members of the profession who still extend some confidence to the present Faculty of the College; that I urged upon several of *these*, to use their influence with the *professors* to attend the Convention; that I spoke to some of the students to get a resolution of the class adopted dispensing with the lectures of any of the professors who might go to Columbus; that

constantly declared, that under all circumstances I would resist the introduction of the Medical College question into the Convention; that on my way to Columbus, I held the same language to such gentlemen of the profession as I met with: and that on the evening of my arrival in that city, I repeated the request to a great number, and even obtained from them a promise that they would co-operate with me, in preventing the zealous advocates of College reform, from disturbing the quiet of the Convention, by the introduction of that question. In support of these statements I beg leave to offer the following certificates.

The subscribers certify, that anterior to the time of their going to Columbus, for the purpose of attending the Medical Convention to be held in that place, they had frequently been solicited by Dr. Drake to use their influence and exertions, in order to procure the attendance of some of the members of the faculty of the Medical College of Ohio at said Convention, and some of us, at his urgent solicitation, did ask Drs. Cobb and Smith to go; and we further certify, that Dr. Drake did use his personal influence at Columbus again and again, to prevent some members of the Convention from bringing the subject of the Medical College of Ohio before said Convention, and they are further satisfied, that had it not been for his earnest and unqualified disapproval of such a measure, it would have been introduced.

LANDON C. RIVES, M. D.
C. R. COOPER, M. D.
W. MOUNT, M. D.
R. P. SIMMONS, M. D.

January 22d.

CINCINNATI, January 22d, 1835.

I find it stated in a pamphlet, entitled "Facts concisely stated for the information of the Legislature of Ohio, published by the Faculty of the Medical College of Ohio," page 6—item 22, that Daniel Drake had been making preparations, for several weeks, to attack the said College in the Medical Convention at Columbus, in the hope, as believed by the Faculty, that the college would not be represented. Now I wish to say, in relation to the whole of the above statement, that Dr. Drake repeatedly informed me, that he would use all his efforts to prevent the subject of the College from being brought before the Convention; and, in case it was brought up in that body, he would immediately leave the House—that he urged me to use my influence with the friends of the Faculty and the College, to get one or more of the professors, with their friends, to attend; and that he wished me to get the Students, if possible, to pass a resolution in the class dispensing with the lectures of any of the professors that would attend, during their absence, which I understood they did.

WM. WOOD, M. D.

I do hereby certify that on or about the first of January, I heard Dr Drake express an earnest wish, that the Medical College of Ohio should be represented in the Medical Convention at Columbus.

JAS. LAKEY.

January 23d, 1835.

DR. DRAKE.

Dear Sir,

It is with much surprise that I have read a paper entitled "Facts concisely stated for the information of the Legislature of Ohio, published by the Faculty of the Ohio Medical College."

In the 22d paragraph of the paper just alluded to, the faculty state it as their belief, that Dr. Drake was "making preparations for several weeks" previous to the Medical Convention, to attack or discuss the present condition of the Medical College, in that body, and that two of its professors attended, for the purpose of defending it against any such attack.

I confess this was my impression on first hearing of the contemplated meeting, and so expressed myself to some of my medical friends in the month of November, and on that account, as I was connected with some of the professors in the publication of a journal of Medicine, I determined not to attend. But during the month of December, circumstances were constantly occurring, which induced me to abandon that belief—and I thus, made up my mind to attend. For several weeks before we set out for Columbus, as well as on our way there, I heard Dr. Drake on all occasions, declare that he hoped nothing would be done in the convention in relation to the Medical College—and should use all his influence to prevent it, and in case it should be introduced he would leave the meeting. He also repeatedly remarked, that he hoped the College would be represented there, and *I know*, took measures to induce some of its professors to attend. Before the Convention rose, it was satisfactorily ascertained by some of the friends of Dr. Drake, that a majority of the members were in favor of a change in the board of Trustees, and an alteration in the present faculty, and were desirous that the subject should be introduced in the meeting before it rose, but Dr. Drake earnestly remonstrated, saying that the design of the Convention was the consideration of objects of general benevolence and the elevation of the medical character of the State—and on that account it was not introduced.

Had it been done, I am well persuaded in my own mind that a respectable majority of its members would have voted for a change in the present organization of the institution.

SILAS REED.

Cincinnati, January 23d, 1835.

DR. DRAKE.

Dear Sir,

I distinctly remember that you spoke to me several times during the month of December last, on the subject of the Convention of Physicians which was about to take place at Columbus in the ensuing

month. I remember that you enquired of me, more than once, which of the professors of the Medical College of Ohio would probably be there; and also that you manifested much anxiety that the college should be represented at the convention by one or more of its Teachers. I remember that you urged it on me, on one occasion, as my duty, as a friend to that institution, which I am, to speak with the members of the faculty on the subject. I said I would but I never had an opportunity.

I am yours most respectfully,

JAMES M. MASON, M. D.

Cincinnati, January 23d, 1835.

DR. DRAKE.

Dear Sir,

I am happy to have it in my power to state, that with all the kind attention which I have received from you personally, professionally and otherwise since I came to this place a stranger, you never have at any time mentioned the subject of the Medical College or in any way attempted to influence me with regard to its professors. You did at various times invite me to attend the Convention at Columbus, and requested me to extend this invitation to those professors with whom I was acquainted, and particularly to professor Cobb, which I did. The day before you left for Columbus I met you in Third street, and asked you what you supposed was the principal object of the Convention, and what you really expected would be done? You replied, "it was for the purpose of promoting social intercourse among Physicians and to exalt the profession; that you expected all subjects relative to the profession would be touched upon, but that of the Medical College of Ohio, and that subject you were determined should be kept out of the Convention." This was the only time I ever heard you mention the *name* of the Medical College. I am very respectfully your obt. ser'vt.

M. FLAGG, M. D.

Cincinnati, January 23d, 1835.

It will be observed, that the 24 "items" into which the pamphlet is divided, are intended to announce, that "*Daniel Drake*" as he is called, is a very wicked man; and to put your honorable body, and the world at large, on their guard, against his schemes of malice and dismemberment. It is to be regretted, that the authors of this important discovery, had not come into our state several years sooner, as they might have preserved other charitable and literary institutions than the Medical College, from the violent hands of "*the said Drake*"—the "*enemy*" of our common prosperity, and kept them in the same flourishing condition with the College.

The benefactors of the state, who have thus undertaken to inform your honorable body, of the conclusions which ought to be drawn from the testimony which you have collected concerning the Medical College, and save

you from the labor of examining it for yourselves; and who, in the name of the Faculty, are charitably enlightening the public mind in the West, in regard to the true character of "*Drake*," are Drs. Mitchell, Moorhead, and Pierson. That the whole credit of the disclosure is theirs, to the exclusion of their colleagues, Drs. Smith, Cobb, and Eberle, will appear from the following letters.

DR. DRAKE.

Dear Sir,

In a note which you have addressed to me, which has been handed me by Dr. Cooper, you say you wish to know whether you are to regard me as testifying that the evidence then collected goes to sustain the "items" in the pamphlet of which you have spoken.

I answer that I was not present in the Faculty at the time that the pamphlet was brought before them—having neglected to attend, not knowing that any business of importance was to be transacted—when I examined the pamphlet, I told Dr. Mitchell, the Dean, that I was not a member of the Faculty at the time that those investigations had taken place, and that consequently I was unwilling to be considered as taking any part in making the allegations or attesting to the items therein contained.

Your obet. serv.

A. G. SMITH.

Cincinnati, January 22d, 1835.

Sir,

In reply to your note of January 22nd, 1835, requesting information whether or not I voted in Faculty for the passage of the several items contained in a pamphlet entitled, "Facts concisely stated for the information of the Legislature of Ohio," I have to state, that, I was not present at the Faculty meeting when the above items were adopted, and of course did not vote.

With respect I am yours,

JEDEDIAH COBB.

DR. DRAKE.
January 23d, 1835.

Seventh Street, Jan. 22d, 1835.

Sir:

I was present at the Faculty Meeting when the "Facts concisely stated" &c. were read by the Dean (Dr. Mitchell;) and after having been assured that all the statements could be fully substantiated voted for having them published.

JNO. EBERLE.

The distinction which Dr. Eberle has here drawn between a vote *declaratory* of the *truth* of the "items" and a vote for their *publication*, is obvious and not unimportant to my character. Dr. Eberle has been acquainted with me since 1830, and we served together in the Jefferson College,

at Philadelphia, and afterwards in the Medical College of Ohio; he has been my neighbour for more than three years; and was a witness and auditor, in the College inquiry directed by the Legislature, two years ago; he was sent to Columbus to observe my movements, and attended all the sittings of the Convention; and STILL *with all these opportunities of observing my conduct in public and private life*, he was not prepared to assume the authorship of a single "item" of the 24! and only voted for their publication, from being *assured* by *Dr. Mitchell!!!* that they were true, and certainly *if* true they *ought* to be published.

The last of the "items" is a deduction from the preceding 24, and runs in this wise:—24.—"The conclusion from all these statements, is the same to which the Senate arrived, at the last session, as will be seen by examining their report, viz: *that it is exceedingly problematical whether this individual* (Drake) *could long remain in harmony with any Faculty, unless he had the entire control of it.*" It is evident that Dr. Eberle could not have been one of the authors of this conclusion, for three years ago, when the proceedings of the Board of Trustees compelled me to leave the College, and Dr. Eberle was appointed to the Chair of Theory and Practice, he told Dr. Wood, that he only took it till I should be restored to the school, when he would relinquish it with pleasure for some other professorship; when attending the convention, a fortnight since, he said to Dr. Awl, who repeated it to Dr. Cooper and myself, that "HE *never had any difficulty in serving with Dr. Drake, and he would like to see him in the college again;*" finally as late as last night, when Mr. Morris called on him with my note, he stated that *he and myself could harmonize in the Faculty, that he would be pleased to serve with me*, and that he found, when in Columbus, attending the Convention, that I had many friends among its members and the members of the Legislature.

Thus it is evident that Dr Eberle is not responsible for the 24, "items," and that, in fact although given as the act of the *Faculty* they are the production of but half the professors, Drs. Mitchell, Moorhead and Pierson. The last of whom, a peaceful, conscientious, and pious gentleman, may be regarded, to use a mercantile phrase, as the "sleeping partner" of the firm. These three gentlemen constitute the *Cerberus*, that watches over the *manes* of the departed college, and cries aloud to your honorable body at least once a year, whether invasion be at hand or not. His great watchfulness is manifest, in the voice he has raised against Dr. Henry, an honorable man and able professor, whom a great majority of the class, four years ago, petitioned the trustees to retain in the institution; who

now resides in a distant state, and has left in Ohio and Kentucky a numerous body of respectable friends and relatives, to be scandalized by the wanton promulgation of a libel on his professional character.

The *Cerberus* in giving "*information*" to your honorable body, "*forgot*" a few "*items*," which if they had been correctly stated, and numbered after the "21" would have read as followeth:

"25. In consequence of the arts, wiles, circumventions, divings, intrigues, divinings and machinations, of the "*said Daniel Drake*," underneath, within, and around, the college, from the Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico,—its pupils, (excluding beneficiaries, and many physicians of the city, from 30 to 50 years of age, annually enrolled and reported to your honorable body,) have only amounted in 12 years, to 860, that is to an average of about 70 each session; while the Kentucky school, within the same period, has had more than 2620, or about 220 annually—*three to one!* Moreover, in consequence of the malign influence of the same "*individual*," our school this session has but a small and discouraging class of beneficiaries, although we advertised for an unlimited number; and only 83 pay pupils, while the school at Lexington has 246.—Further still, Kentucky has sent, this year, 126 of her own pupils to the school at Lexington, while Ohio, has afforded to hers, but 46 (which is 20 less than she gave seven years ago,) notwithstanding, as we would respectfully inform your honorable body, the population of Ohio is 300,000 more than that of Kentucky. We hope your honorable body, will open your eyes to these facts, and make such laws, in reference to "*said Drake*," as the premises may require.

"26. The sum given by the state of Kentucky, to the school at Lexington, was only 5000 dollars; while that given by your honorable body, to the Medical College of Ohio, is upwards of 33,000 dollars, and the Trustees are now 3000 dollars in debt; all of which, be it known to your honorable body, has arisen from the continued and cruel persecutions of the "*Enemy—Drake.*"

"27. Not a little of this debt has been contracted, by the expense of the numerous publications, which the Trustees and Faculty have been compelled to make, for the purpose of exposing the true character of "*said Drake*," and warning the West against his plans of overthrow.

"28. In consequence of the unheard of efforts of the "*Adversary*," the Faculty and Trustees, after having, as they told your honorable body, in 1827 erected an edifice sufficient to afford "ample and convenient accommodations for a class of 350 pupils," were compelled, in 1831, when they had only 125 pupils to build another of nearly the same size; whereby the corporation has become greatly embarrassed.

"29. Still further, in consequence of the smallness of their classes, from the continued intrigues of the aforesaid "*Adversary, Daniel Drake*," the Faculty were under the *necessity*, of throwing the moneys arising from the admission of pupils into the Hospital, into their contingent fund, to pay for wood and water, and the printing of divers exposures of the conduct and character of "*said Daniel;*" *although* the hospital law required them to appropriate it, exclusively, to the purchase of "books, philosophical apparatus and anatomical preparations for the college." Thus, by the conduct of "*said Drake,*"

the institution has been defrauded out of a large item of its revenues, and the Faculty would, respectfully, solicit your honorable body, to pass a law, requiring the "*Adversary*," to pay to the college corporation, the amount which it has thus lost.

"30. The Faculty are of opinion, that the best interests of the college, require, that you should authorise them, to prohibit the pupils from visiting the "*Enemy*" while they belong to the institution."

Such are some of the "*items*" which the *Cerberus* should have added to the "24 ," but time did not permit, and I have here attempted, imperfectly, to supply them.

Your honorable body cannot fail to notice that the renewed war of personalities, which you have been called upon to preside over, was declared by the three professors, whose names I have cited. Why not write a private letter to your honorable body beseeching you to examine the testimony collected by the commissioners in 1833, that you might see the entire map of the "*said Drake's*" cunning attacks upon the *College?*—the *professors*, being as they claim, the *institution!* Why so soon after the sitting of the Medical Convention, designed to restore quiet and promote brotherly love in the profession of Ohio, come out, when no friend of college reform was publishing a line against the present faculty, with a tirade of old and exploded personalities against "*Daniel Drake*," the "*adversary?*" The college ought to be in the profession a principle of harmony—not a restless disturber of its peace.

It is rumored, that your honorable body have it in contemplation, to remove the college to Columbus. This, however, could avail nothing to its prosperity, unless you had the power to keep away "*Drake*" and the "*Cholera;*" who conspiring together against its advancement, have, for three successive years, been presented to your honorable body, by the faculty, as the causes of its having on an average, but one third of the number of pupils, with the Kentucky school, as stated above.

I cannot but regret, that my name should have been brought before your honorable body in connexion with the re-election of a board of Trustees for the college. I am not a candidate for office in the institution, and my interest in its character and prospects, is in common with that of the Medical profession of the west.

I have the honor to be most

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

DANIEL DRAKE M. D.

Cincinnati, January 23*d*, 1835.

Ed. 3rd, Jan. 31st.

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